

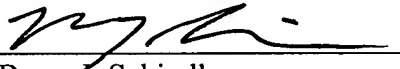
REMARKS:

Amended claim 10 with the additional limitation of "thermoplastic" is fully supported by the original filed specification of U.S. Serial No. 08/611,298 – issued U.S. Patent No. 5,911,937 (the "937 patent"). For example, at column 10, line 65 and column 18, line 17 of the 937 patent.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the invention recited by pending claims is patentable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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